



TO: SEATAC Members
FROM: Dr. Shirley Imsand, Coordinator
SUBJECT: MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA

The next meeting of SEATAC is scheduled for:

Day/Date: Monday, 4 January 2010
Time: 1:00 P.M.
Place: DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING
Hall of Records, Room 1385
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SEATAC members, please park in Lot 11 located at 227 N. Spring, entering from Spring; or Lot 26 located at 120 S. Olive, entering from 1st Street; both are operated by 5-Star Parking Services. Please call (213) 974-6461 to confirm attendance at scheduled meeting for reserved parking validation.

AGENDA

1. **1:00 p.m.** Review and approve SEATAC minutes of 7 December 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

2. **1:30 p.m.** **Project Description: Gray Butte Solar Array**
Project No. R2009-01148, RENV200900075, RCUP200900078,
RZCT200900006

Applicant: Gray Butte Solar, LLC

Biologist: Gary Santolo of CH2MHill, Santa Ana

The project consists of a nominal 139-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) power generating facility. The project is located on approximately 1,100 acres of land that is in agricultural cultivation and located in rural northeastern Los Angeles County. The Project site consists of four parcels with a connecting future access road easement, internal transmission line easement, and a preferred generation-tie line route. The northern parcel is 333 acres and is currently under center-pivot irrigation and in active cultivation; the central parcels are 80 acres and are currently in active cultivation; and the southern parcel is 691 acres and is currently under center-pivot irrigation and in active cultivation.

If you require reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aids and services such as material in an alternate format or a sign language interpreter, please contact the ADA (American with Disabilities Act) Coordinator at (213) 974-6488 (Voice) or (213) 617-2292 (TDD), with at least five business days notice.

The southern parcel and portions of the access road, internal transmission line, and generation-tie line route are located within the Desert-Montane Transect Significant Ecological Area (SEA) #55, and the central and northern parcels are located immediately north of and adjacent to it.

SEA RESOURCE DESCRIPTION: The **Desert-Montane Transect** possesses vegetation types that are representative of the transition between the Mojave Desert and the north slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains. The combination of desert and montane habitats makes this one of the most diverse areas within Los Angeles County, and one of the largest undisturbed areas outside the Angeles National Forest.

Desert communities include creosote bush scrub, sagebrush scrub, and Joshua tree woodland. Creosote bush scrub is found on the desert floor and in the butte areas. Sagebrush scrub and Joshua tree woodland are found above the floor in the broad alluvial fans and at the base of the rocky foothills. The sagebrush scrub community is limited in distribution in southern California. Pinyon-juniper woodland and desert chaparral habitats are found in the foothills and the lower mountain slopes. At higher elevations, a mixed conifer forest occurs, with Jeffrey pine (*Pinus jeffreyi*), ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), and big-cone spruce (*Pseudotsuga macrocarpa*) as the dominant species.

The area is valuable because it is the only site where these communities can be found in an uninterrupted band running from the crest of the San Gabriel Mountains to a desert butte.

The area has avoided extensive development. Many roads and scattered homesites do exist within the area. Other less common developments include campgrounds, reservoirs, quarries, railroad tracks, and powerlines. However, the biological resources should be identified and rated accordingly.

Action Requested: **Review of the Biological Constraints Analysis. The Biological Constraints Analysis has been used to prepare the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance under Article 7, Section 15080. Mitigation measures may be proposed by SEATAC for incorporation into the Final EIR.**

OTHER MATTERS

3. Public comment pursuant to Section 54954.3 of the Government Code.